

Subject: Visitor interviews at areas scheduled for modernization in FY01

Resource Manager

The purpose of this message is to request your participation in a series of interviews with visitors this summer. In January 2000 CECW-ON established the Recreation Facilities Standards Committee to develop guidance for future development on Corps managed recreation areas. The Committee organized a public outreach activity to ensure that the guidance meets the needs of our visitors. A part of the public outreach activity, the Committee has recommended that informal interviews be conducted with visitors at recreation areas scheduled for modernization in FY2001.

The purpose of the interviews is to identify recreation facility and service requirements and improvements needed by our visitors. This not a formal visitor survey requiring approval from the Office of Management and Budget. The information we need can be acquired through informal discussions with visitors then recorded on the attached interview form. We have informed OMB staff of this effort and may use the results of these interviews to develop a more formal survey process in the future.

We are requesting that your staff conduct informal discussions with 20 visitors from each major activity group (i.e. campers, boat ramp users, and day users) that use the recreation area scheduled for modernization. If all activity groups are present at the recreation area we are requesting 60 interviews. If not all activity groups are present we are requesting only 20 interviews per activity group. We only need interviews from the recreation area undergoing modernization in FY01.

The interview recording form and instructions are attached to this message. The form can be printed and used to record information from the visitor. The instructions provide detailed procedures for selecting visitors and conducting the discussions. In the next week you will be receiving a CD that contains the data entry software. Please enter the interview results using the software and email the file to Mr. Sam Franco, francos@wes.army.mil by 15 August 2000. We will compile the results and provide you with a copy. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions about the discussion guide and instructions please call Ms. Bonnie Bryson at 502/582-5274 or me at 601/634-2105. Please call Mr. Franco (601/634-4205) if you have any questions or require additional information on the data entry software.

Scott Jackson